

agitated Italy internally. The
 home of tow,
 canon and civil, she was also the nurse
 of the free
 cities. In the eleventh century that
 movement
 was yet in the womb, the twelfth saw it
 in the full
 light of day advancing from victory to
 victory.
 Aribert, Archbishop of Milan, an
 autocrat and
 aristocrat, forged a deadly weapon
 against his own
 order and against episcopal and feudal
 rule, when
 in 1038 he armed Milan against the
 Emperor
 Conrad, placed weapons in the hands of
 the whole
 people in a civic militia which adored
 him, and
 gave them the *carroccio*, the waggon
 with its
 flying the banners of St. Ambrose and
 currying
 the effigy of the Crucified, to fight
 around and
 never to abandon in any field of
 battle. By the
 end of that century Milan was free of its
 archiepiH*
 copal lord, and every city in
 Lombardy with
 success greater or less was throwing off
 the domin-
 ion of bishops and feudal lords,
 Tuacany did the
 same against its margraves and North
 arid Centra!
 Italy presented everywhere a picture*
 of wailed
 cities governed by elected consuls, nil
 but free of
 outside interference, and guarding
 their liberties
 with an enthusiastic militia. Before
 the of

another century the infantry of Milan,
Cremona,
and the Lombard town-league had at
Legnano the greatest Emperor
Henry

III.,
and the only external authority had
re-
mained a danger to their freedom,
A factor as old as that of the wu
the imperial and cosmopolitan now